

3. (Amended) A purified nucleic acid molecule, having an homology of at least 60% with the nucleic acid of claim 2.

4. (Amended) A purified nucleic acid molecule, having an homology of at least 80% with the nucleic acid of claim 2.

5. (Amended) The purified nucleic acid molecule as defined in claim 4, wherein the mammal is a human.

6. (Amended) The nucleic acid as defined in claim 1, which has the sequence set out in SEQ ID No. 3.

8. (Amended) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 24.

11. (Amended) A purified nucleic acid of at least 12 nucleotides in length that hybridizes to nucleic acids of a calcium sensing cell and with SEQ ID No. 1, SEQ ID No. 3, or a complementary sequence thereof.

12. (Amended) The nucleic acid as defined in claim 11 which is an amplification primer.

13. (Amended) The nucleic acid as defined in claim 11, which is a hybridization probe.

15. (Amended) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 24 and a carrier.

16. (Amended) A composition of matter comprising the nucleic acid of claim 25 and a carrier.

24. (New) The purified nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein the HCaRG encodes SEQ ID NO: 2.

25. (New) The purified nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein the HCaRG encodes SEQ ID NO: 4.

26. (New) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 25.

27. (New) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 26.

28. (New) A ^{isolated} composition of matter comprising the recombinant vector of claim ~~28~~⁸ and a carrier.

29. (New) A ^{isolated} composition of matter comprising the recombinant host cell of claim 27 and a carrier.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 30 and ending on page 5, line 5 with the following paragraph.

Therefore the present invention relates to a nucleic acid molecule isolated from parathyroid of a mammal and whose expression is regulated by extracellular calcium concentration. In one case, the mammal is a human and the molecule encodes the amino acid sequence set out in Figure 4 (bottom lines). In another case, the mammal is a rat and the molecule encodes the amino acid sequence set out in Figure 4 (top lines). The invention includes a nucleotide molecule of a human, and having a homology of 60% or greater to all or part of the sequence set out in Figure 1. The molecule may have a 60% or greater homology to the translated portion of the sequence.

REMARKS

The Amendments

Originally filed claim 1 was directed to a "nucleic acid molecule isolable from parathyroid of a mammal and whose expression is regulated by extracellular calcium